



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Ikegami, et al.
 Appl. No. : 09/913,799
 Filed : December 31, 2001
 For : DRINK USING SEAWATER AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING
 THE SAME
 Examiner : N. Bhat
 Group Art Unit : 1761

DECLARATION UNDER 1.132

Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

I, Koji Nakagawa, a co-inventor of the present application, do hereby declare as follows:

1 The following experiments were conducted by me or under my direct supervision to show influence of mineral-enriched drink derived from seawater on a blood stream in the body.

2 Seawater was obtained from the Pacific Ocean in the offing of Kochi Prefecture in Japan at a depth of 320 m. A mineral-enriched drink using the seawater was prepared in accordance with Example 1 of the present application, wherein the seawater was desalinated and its mineral contents and hardness were adjusted as follows:

Hardness	1000
Mg	200 ppm
Ca	71 ppm
Na	74 ppm
K	69 ppm

*Mg/Ca=3/1

3 As a control, tap water (Ako City, Hyogo Prefecture, Japan) enriched with Mg, Ca, Na, and K using food additives and chemical reagents was prepared to give the hardness and the mineral contents identical to the above.

4 Ten healthy men in thirties who consented to the experiment were gathered as subjects. They drank 500 ml of the mineral-adjusted seawater before having breakfast. Blood was taken before drinking the mineral-enriched drink and one hour after drinking it. Immediately after

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which, heparin sodium was added to the whole blood so as to be 5%, and passage time of 100 μ l of whole blood was measured by a Micro Channel Array Flow Analyzer (manufactured by SanTree Kikou) with a micro channel chip having a channel width of 7 μ m (manufactured by Hitachi Haramachi Denshi Kogyo). At least one week after the analysis of the mineral-adjusted seawater, they drank the mineral-enriched tap water and the same analysis was conducted.

5 The results of transmit time through whole blood are shown as below.

Test Sample	Passage time of whole blood (second/100 μ l of whole blood)		Reduction rate (%) ¹
	Before drinking	After drinking	
Mineral-adjusted seawater	53.5 \pm 2.0	48.0 \pm 1.0*	9.0
Mineral-enriched tap water	57.3 \pm 7.2	65.1 \pm 8.8	-

1: Reduction rate = (before drinking – after drinking)/(before drinking) \times 100

*: Statistically significant at significance level of 5% (p<0.05)

6 As is apparent from the above table, even if the same amount of the same components (Mg, Ca, Na, K) were included in the each solution, only after drinking the mineral-adjusted seawater, the passage time of whole blood was reduced. According to the results, it was proved that the mineral-adjusted seawater has a significant effect on a blood stream in the body as compared with the mineral-enriched tap water.

7 Additionally, the following is Embodiment 4 disclosed in the present specification, wherein a mineral-adjusted seawater equivalent to the above mineral-adjusted seawater was used. In the embodiment, by having rats freely take high-cholesterol feeds and the mineral-adjusted seawater for four weeks, the total cholesterol level in rats' blood plasma and LDL-Ch were measured. Male Wister rats of 10 weeks (a group of eight) were used as test subjects. The results of the total cholesterol level and LDL-Ch are shown in the table below. It was confirmed that an increase in total cholesterol and LDL-Ch which is considered to cause arteriosclerosis was suppressed by taking the mineral-adjusted seawater. To my best knowledge, no mineral-enriched tap water has equivalent effects.

	Total Cholesterol Level	LDL-Ch
High cholesterol feeds	144	38
High cholesterol feeds + the seawater drink	101	26

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8 I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true, and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 05.20.04

By: Koji Nakagawa
Koji Nakagawa

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